

IN THE MATTER OF:

**Administrative Proceeding
Number: LC-22-5618**

Respondent

The SECRETARY OF STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, by and through the undersigned designated representative, hereby issues this Cease and Desist Order and Notice of Intent to Revoke Registration against World Apostolate of Fatima USA, Inc. (“World Apostolate of Fatima USA”). In support hereof, he states the following:

The Secretary of State is vested with the regulation of charitable organizations that solicit donations in the State of Mississippi pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. §79-11-501, *et seq.* World Apostolate of Fatima USA is a charitable organization as defined by Miss. Code Ann. §79-11-501(a)(i) (“Act”), to-wit:

World Apostolate of Fatima USA is a charitable organization as defined by the Act, and is subject to the Secretary of State's regulatory authority. Therefore, the Secretary of State finds that he has jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties herein.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. World Apostolate of Fatima USA's registration expired with the Charities Division of the Secretary of State's Office ("Division") on November 15, 2020 because it failed to submit the annual renewal registration or Final Report.

2. As a courtesy thereafter, the Division sent World Apostolate of Fatima USA electronic mail on March 2, 2022. The electronic mail indicated that World Apostolate of Fatima USA had failed to renew its registration and that a renewal registration was required if World Apostolate of Fatima USA wanted to continue to solicit contributions in Mississippi; otherwise, if World Apostolate of Fatima USA wanted to cease solicitations in Mississippi, a Final Report would be required to terminate the registration. World Apostolate of Fatima USA failed to respond to the electronic mail, submit a renewal registration, or file a Final Report.

3. To date, the Division has not received a renewal registration or Final Report from World Apostolate of Fatima USA.

III. APPLICABLE LAW

4. Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. §79-11-503(1), every charitable organization which solicits or intends to solicit contributions shall be registered with the Secretary of State prior to any solicitation.

5. Miss. Code Ann. §79-11-503(6) further states that in no event shall a registered charitable organization continue to solicit contributions in or from this state after the date such organization should have filed, but failed to file, a renewal and the financial report in accordance with the requirements of §§79-11-501 through 79-11-529.

6. Miss. Code Ann. §79-11-503(8) also states that any registered charitable organization which for any reason opts not to renew its registration must, upon the expiration of its registration, provide to the Secretary of State a Final Report.

7. Miss. Code Ann. §79-11-509(1)(e) states that the Secretary of State shall deny, suspend, or revoke a registration or exemption if the applicant or registrant has violated or failed to comply with any provisions of the chapter or any rule or order thereunder.

8. Miss. Code Ann. §79-11-509(2) also states that the Secretary of State shall notify the applicant or licensee of his intent to deny, suspend, or revoke a license and shall inform him of his right to request an administrative hearing within thirty (30) days of receipt of the notification.

9. Miss. Code Ann. §79-11-509(4) provides that whenever it appears to the Secretary of State that any person has engaged in or is about to engage in any act or practice constituting a violation of any provision of this chapter or any rule or order hereunder, he may, in his discretion, seek one or more of the following remedies in addition to other remedies authorized by law:

(a) Issue a cease and desist order, with or without a prior hearing against the person or persons engaged in the prohibited activities, directing them to cease and desist from further illegal activity;

(b) Administratively dissolve the charitable organization; or

(c) Issue an order imposing an administrative penalty up to a maximum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) for each offense, each violation to be considered as a separate offense in a single proceeding or a series of related proceedings;

IV. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

10. According to Miss. Code Ann. §79-11-503(1) and (6), every charitable organization which solicits or intends to solicit contributions shall file with the Secretary of State a registration statement and pay a filing fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00). In no event shall a registered charitable organization continue to solicit contributions in or from this state after the date such organization should have filed, but failed to file, a renewal and the financial report in accordance with the requirements of §§79-11-501 through 79-11-529. World Apostolate of Fatima USA has failed to file a renewal registration and financial report with the Division after its registration expired, and is therefore in violation of these provisions.

11. World Apostolate of Fatima USA does not have the option of not renewing its registration in Mississippi. Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. §79-11-503(8), if a registered charitable organization for any reason opts not to renew its registration, it must upon the expiration of its registration, provide to the Secretary of State a Final Report. World Apostolate of Fatima USA has failed to file a Final Report with the Division after its registration expired, and is therefore, in violation of this provision.

V. CEASE AND DESIST

As provided in Miss. Code Ann. §79-11-509(4), the Secretary of State hereby orders World Apostolate of Fatima USA to immediately **CEASE AND DESIST** soliciting charitable contributions in and from the State of Mississippi as defined by Miss. Code Ann. §79-11-501. This order shall remain in effect until further order of the Secretary of State.

VI. NOTICE OF INTENT TO REVOKE REGISTRATION

Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. §79-11-509(1)(e), the Secretary of State shall deny, suspend, or revoke a registration of a registrant that has violated or failed to comply with

any provision of the chapter or rule thereunder. The Secretary of State hereby revokes the registration of World Apostolate of Fatima USA.

VII. RIGHT TO ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

An administrative hearing may be requested in this matter. Any such request shall be made, in writing, to Tanya G. Webber, Assistant Secretary of State, Charities Division, Post Office Box 136, Jackson, MS 39205, within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of this Order. If an administrative hearing is requested, written notice of the date, time, and place, will be given to all parties by certified mail, return receipt requested. Said notice will also designate a Hearing Officer. In the event such written notice is not received within the thirty (30) day period of time, the registration revocation and dissolution shall become effective.

VIII. PUBLIC INTEREST

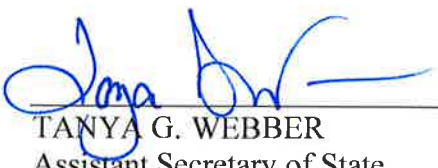
The actions taken and proposed to be taken herein by the Secretary of State are in the public interest and are consistent with the purposes set out in Miss. Code. Ann. §79-11-501, *et seq.*

IX. RIGHT TO AMEND

The Secretary of State hereby reserves the right to amend this Cease and Desist Order and Notice of Intent to Revoke Registration.

SO ISSUED, this the 21st day of September, 2022.

MICHAEL WATSON
Secretary of State
State of Mississippi

BY: 
TANYA G. WEBBER
Assistant Secretary of State
Charities Division

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Tanya G. Webber, do hereby certify, that I have this day, mailed a true and correct copy, via certified mail, return receipt requested, of the Cease and Desist Order and Notice of Intent to Revoke Registration to the following:

World Apostolate of Fatima USA, Inc.
Post Office Box 976
Washington, NJ 07882

World Apostolate of Fatima USA, Inc.
674 Mountain View Road East
Asbury, CA 08802

This the 21st day of September, 2022.



TANYA G. WEBBER
Assistant Secretary of State
Charities Division
Mississippi Secretary of State's Office

Tanya G. Webber, MSB# 99405
Mississippi Secretary of State's Office
Post Office Box 136
Jackson, Mississippi 39205
(601) 359-1599